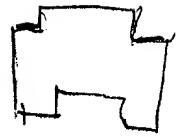


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of Collier et al.**

)  
    ) Art Unit:         **3673**  
    )  
Serial Number     **09/830,388**     )  
    ) Examiner:         **S. Singh**  
    )  
Filed             **August 10, 2001**     )  
    ) Atty Docket:         **COL001**

**For: Offshore Structure****INFORMAL COMMUNICATION****Via Facsimile  
(703) 746-3785****Examiner Singh:**

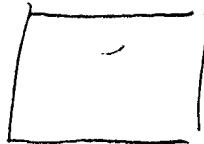
Per our conversation yesterday, attached hereto is claim 1 amended in a manner which is quite more specific than previously presented. As agreed, you will consider this claim versus at least the prior art of record and contact me at the number provided below to discuss the possible entry of this claim and passage of the application to issue. As previously mentioned to you, any additional comments or suggestions regarding the claim language would be appreciated as the Applicant is looking to finalize this case and move along with the potentially more pertinent subject matter of the method claims which will need to be addressed in a divisional application given the earlier restriction requirement. Your time and consideration is certainly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

**Everett G. Diederiks, Jr.  
Registration No. 33,323**

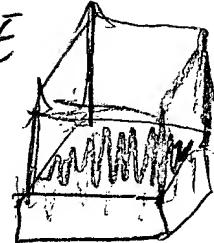
Date: December 31, 2003  
**DIEDERIKS & WHITELAW, PLC**  
12471 Dillingham Square, #301  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
Tel: (703) 583-8300  
Fax: (703) 583-8301

Appl. Serial No. 09/830,388  
 Informal Communication  
 Page 2



$W = 2 \text{ SPSE}$

$L = 2 \text{ add side E}$



1. (currently amended) An offshore structure comprising:

a base,

a substantially rectangular deck having a width and a length, with the width being defined between two substantially parallel side edges and the length being defined between two additional side edges, and

a plurality of legs extending substantially perpendicular to the base between the base and the deck, wherein the plurality of legs are attached to the base outboard of said parallel side edges so as to be spaced a distance greater than the width of the deck such that the deck is positioned entirely between opposing ones of the plurality of legs, while the length of the deck is greater than a distance between adjacent ones of the plurality of legs, and

a connection is provided between an inwardly facing face of each of the plurality of legs and the parallel side edges of the deck.

16 more

